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Depressed Classes.—Persons belonging to depressed classes have been elected to the Hindupur, the Adoni, the Palacole, the Chirala and the Ootacamund Municipal Councils and to local boards in the Anantapur, the Bellary, the Chingleput, the Chittoor, the Coimbatore, the East Godavari, the West Godavari and the Nilgiri districts.

Compassionate grants to local boards.

* 1470 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the districts where the local boards are collecting land-cess at the maximum rate of 18 pies; and

(*b*) the local boards to which the Government are giving compassionate grants to balance the budgets?

A.—(*a*) Land cess is levied at the maximum rate of 18 pies in the rupee of land revenue throughout the districts of Bellary, Chingleput. Cuddapah, South Kanara, Kurnool, Malabar, the Nilgiris and Salem.

(*b*) (1) The Nilgiri District Board.
(2) The Kasaragod Taluk Board.
(3) The Puttur Taluk Board
(4) The Karkal Taluk Board.
(5) The Mangalore Taluk Board.

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"May I know, Sir, how long and for what consideration the Nilgiri District Board has been given compassionate grant?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"They are not able to meet their expenditure."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"May I know how long it has been like that?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It has been so for the last ten years."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will keep on supporting this district with funds?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is so, Sir."

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Alleged mismanagement of the Margabanduswami temple in Virinjipuram.

* 1471 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received sometime back a mahazar from prominent residents of Virinjipuram, North Arcot district, making several allegations of mismanagement against the dharmakartha of the famous Margabanduswami temple in that place;

(*b*) whether the memorialists urged the appointment of Mr. V. A. Doraiswami Mudaliyar of Virinjipuram as trustee in place of the existing trustee;

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(c) what action Government have taken in the matter; and

(d) whether they are aware that the late President of the Temple Committee, Vellore, made enquiries and was convinced of the mismanagement of the temple by the existing trustee Mr. Margabandu Mudaliyar?

A.—No.

Temples in South Kanara under the jurisdiction of the Temple Committee.

* 1472 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of temples in South Kanara that have come under the jurisdiction of the Temple Committee;

(b) the number of temples whose annual income is below Rs. 250;

(c) how many of the minor temples were proposed by the Udipi and Mangalore Circle Temple Committees to be brought under the Endowments Act by notification under section 4; and

(d) how many of temples in South Kanara are receiving tasdik from Government?

A.—(a) One hundred and sixty.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) Nine hundred and sixty-six.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to the lists of allowances paid by the Government to religious institutions in the Madras Presidency, which were placed on the table of the House with reference to the answer given to question No. 1051 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th January 1929. Government have no further information in the matter.

Village Panchayats

Action taken on the resolutions passed by the Village Panchayats Conference at Katrapadu.

* 1473 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the resolutions passed by the Village Panchayats Conference at Katrapadu, Guntur district, on 10th January 1930 under the presidency of the Registrar-General of Panchayats

(1) that, as soon as a panchayat is functioning the Taluk Board Elementary school or schools in the panchayat area, should be transferred to the panchayat concerned for management; and

(2) that Government should supply power drills free of charge to panchayats to find out fresh water springs wherever necessary; and

(b) if not, whether they will be pleased to ascertain whether such resolutions have been passed and indicate the action they have already taken or propose to take on them?

A.—The Government have no information of the resolutions referred to. As the policy said to be recommended therein seems to be impracticable, Government do not propose to call for information.